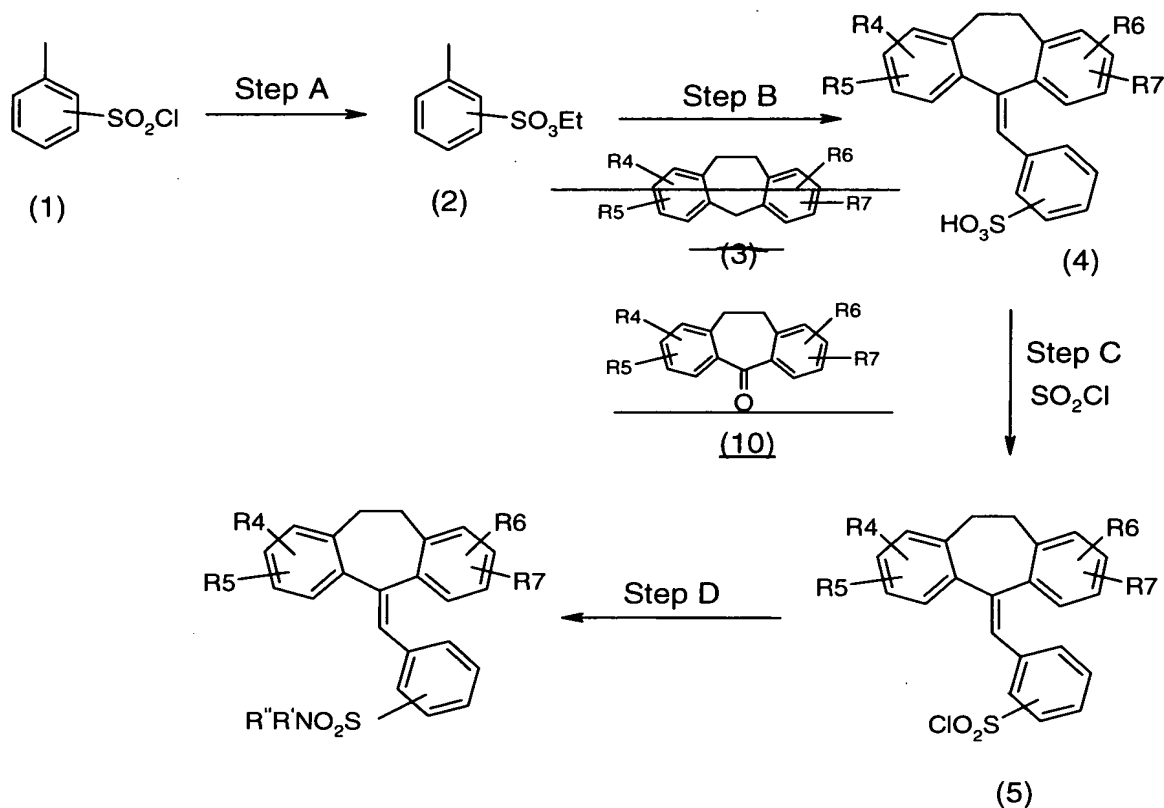


### Amendments to the Specification

Please replace Scheme I which appears on page 83, lines 7-8 of the specification with the following replacement scheme, marked up to reflect the amendments made.



Please replace the paragraph appearing on page 84, lines 1-8 with the following paragraph, marked up to reflect the amendments made.

In Scheme I, Step B, the anion of the methyl sulfate ester of formula (2) is first generated using an appropriate base, such as n-butyl-Li, sec-butyl-Li, or t-butyl-Li at about  $-78$  to  $25^\circ\text{C}$ , in an inert solvent such as THF. For a general discussion of anion formation see J. Marsh, *Advanced Organic Chemistry* (4<sup>th</sup> edition) 606-610. After generation of the anion is complete, a tricyclic, for example substituted or unsubstituted ~~dibenzosuberane (formula (3))~~ dibenzosuberone (formula (10)), is added. During acidic work-up, the carbinol dehydrates to the olefin and the sulfate ester hydrolyzes to the corresponding sulfonic acid to provide the compound of formula (4).